

Message Text

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INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

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E.OM 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT THIEU ON OCCASION OF FIRST AMERICAN

REF : SAIGON 3991

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE BY PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU
ADDRESSED TO THE AMERICAN VETERANS OF THE VIET NAM WAR ON
OCCASSION OF THE FIRST AMERICAN VIET-NAM VETERANS DAY.
BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR FRIENDS,

ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST VIETNAM VETERANS DAY, I
WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY BEST PERSONAL REGARDS TO EACH AND EVERY
AMERICAN WHO IN THE PAST HAS CHOSEN TO MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH
THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AT A DARK MOMENT OF OUR HISTORY.

THANKS TO YOUR NOBLE SACRIFICE AND UNSELFISH DETERMINATION
TO STAND BY A SMALL AND STRUGGLING NATION IN ITS HOUR OF PERIL,
AMERICA HAS PROVED ONCE AGAIN THE STERLING WORTH OF ITS COMMIT-
MENTS AND ITS UNSHAKEABLE FAITH IN AN INTERNATIONAL ORDER THAT
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REFUSE TO CONDONE AGGRESSION. THIS STRENGTH AND GREATNESS OF

VISION HAVE RESULTED IN A WOULD MADE MUCH SAFER AFTER NEARLY
THREE DECADES OF THE COLD WAR, A WORLD IN WHICH THE CHANCES
OF PEACE PROBABLY GREATER
THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN RECENT HISTORY.

IN OUR CASE, THE AGGRESSION FROM THE NORTH, CHECKED ONLY BY
THE SACRIFICE OF COUNTLESS AMERICAN, VIETNAMESE AND ALLIED
COMRADES-IN-ARMS, HAS RESULTED IN AN AGREEMENT WHICH IN SPITE OF
ITS IMPERFECTIONS HAS NONETHELESS ALLOWED FOR THE FIRST TIME
THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE TO THINK IN TERMS OF RECONSTRUCTION
AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. THE PARIS AGREEMENT OF JANUARY 27,
1973, DID NOT MERELY BRING ABOUT AN HONORABLE CONCLUSION TO THE
DIRECT AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE CONFLICT IN OURLAND, IT
ALSO STRENGTHENED THE LEGAL BASES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
IN ITS CONTINUED STRUGGLE FOR SELF-DEFENSE AND FREEDOM IN THIS
PART OF THE WORLD. THE ARMY AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIET NAM ARE THEREFORE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE,
ESPECIALLY TO ITS VALIANT SONS, FOR THEIR PAST CONTRIBUTIONS
AND PRESENT CONTINUED SUPPORT; WE ARE CONFIDENT OF THE FUTURE
AND VOW TO CONSOLIDATE THE GAINS THAT WE ALL HAVE WON
TOGETHER SO THAT THE SACRIFICES YOU HAVE ACCEPTED ON OUR
BEHALF WILL NEVER BE THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN MADE IN VAIN.

IN THIS HOUR OF COMMUNION, THE PEOPLE AND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
OF VIET NAM ALSO TURN OUR THOUGHTS TO THE 55,000 AMERICANS WHO
ACCEPTED TO MAKE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE OF THEIR LIVES FOR THE
CAUSE OF FREEDOM IN VIETNAM. TO THEM AND TO THE BEREAVED
FAMILIES OF THESE HEROES, WE CAN ONLY INCLINE OURSELVES IN THE
DEEPEST EXPRESSION OF OUR RESPECT AND GRATITUDE, PRAYING THAT
THEY REST IN HEAVEN IN THE HAPPY KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY HAD
CONTRIBUTED NO SMALL SHARE TO THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN DIGNITY ON EARTH.

MY FINAL EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS ON BEHALF OF THE VIETNAMESE
NATION GO TO THE PARENTS, WIVES, SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE MILLIONS
OF AMERICANS VETERANS WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THEM IN OUR
LAND, FOR WITHOUT THEIR FAITH AND SILENT ACCQUIESCENCE IN THE
HEROISM OF THEIR MEN, THE VIET NAM WAR COULD NOT HAVE BEEN
BROUGHT TO A SUCCESSFUL END. TO THEM AND TO THEIR BELOVED
HUSBANDS AND SONS, WE WISH A MOST MEMORABLE VIET NAM VETERANS
DAY.

THANK YOU AND MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

END TEXT

MARTIN

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